Southwest Region/Washington County Quality Improvement Committee

Quarterly Report for April, May, and June 2008

Meeting Dates:	7 April 2008		Follow-up
	No Meeting in May 2 June 2008	Review and Action Plan	
	Transition to Adult Living Program (TAL) discussed pilot program headed by Tina Call	Youth are being identified and caseworkers are being assigned	
	June - TAL Pilot Program is under way with caseworkers chosen and youth identified. One youth is very close to moving out into her own apartment.	DCFS is looking at spreading out the youth cases so that a caseworker is not working exclusively with youth as this can be very stressful	
	Kin for Kids bbq has been put on hold until the Fall	A new liaison is being chosen to support this program with the support of Suzanne Chavira	
Substance Abuse	April - Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Conference was discussed. It is going to be held in St. George this year.	Date, Time and Place to be determined	
	Robert is continuing to look at doing drug testing through the Sheriff's Office to save money for these.	Robert will continue to look into this option.	

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		June - Continued discussion regarding getting Sheriff's Office to allow for drug testing in order to save money.	Robert will continue to look into this option.
	Placement Stability	April - Shelter Task Force is still in place but homes are full. Ongoing struggle with finding homes to place Native American Children.	Shelter Task Force continues to look into different options for placing Native American Children as well as recruiting for more shelter homes
		June - Shelter homes are still full. Chris Nelson continues to work diligently to open a Family Support Center, however this will only allow for day time respite care - no overnight stay, so it will not be available as a shelter care option.	
	Employee Retention	April - Discussions held regarding caseworkers doing "ride-alongs" with shelter home families as well as foster families doing ride-alongs with caseworkers in order to understand each role	Continue to identify families and caseworkers willing to do this and have the volunteer packets completed
		June - DCFS made a request for those interested in sitting on a panel interviewing new hires. It was decided that DCFS would let Chantel know when there is a need, and she will e-mail the team members to see who	

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		would be interested.	
Vexing Issues:	Recruitment	Ongoing need for community members who are not affiliated with DCFS in any way so that we can have a broader scope of interests, ideas, networking and support	All team members will search for community members to present to the Team for approval to join the team.
Priority Focus Areas	Shelter Homes and Kinship Support	Securing more shelter homes and supporting the kinship families through a support/training group through the existing Foster Cluster Group under the direction of the Utah Foster Care Foundation	Five Focus Areas remain in place: Minimizing Re-Entry, Substance Abuse, Placement Stability, Employee Retention and Recruitment